

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

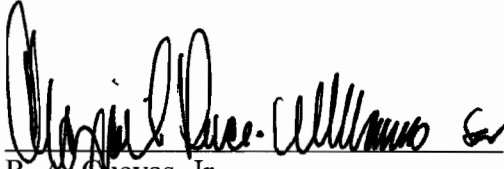
TO: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 17, 2009

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging U.S.
Congress and the Florida
Legislature to fully fund
Biscayne Bay Coastal
Wetlands Projects

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Katy Sorenson, and Co-Sponsors Commissioner Sally A. Heyman and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.


R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney


RAC/up



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 17, 2009

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County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

Please note any items checked.

- "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Bid waiver requiring County Mayor's written recommendation
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)
- No committee review

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)
2-17-09

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS AND THE
FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO FULLY FUND BISCAYNE BAY
COASTAL WETLANDS PROJECTS

WHEREAS, the Greater Everglades Ecosystem is a globally imperiled habitat and the primary source of drinking water for Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project (CERP) is the largest ecosystem restoration effort in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the CERP is intended to restore fresh water sheet flows to Everglades National Park and Biscayne National Park; and

WHEREAS, two projects on the list of 68 identified in CERP, the C-111 spreader canal and the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands rehydration projects, are the only elements of the restoration plan that rehydrate wetlands and restore the estuaries within Biscayne National Park; and

WHEREAS, full funding for all phases of both of these projects are critical to the restoration of Biscayne National Park; and

WHEREAS, these two projects are also critical to Miami-Dade County's efforts to adapt to the projected impact of sea level rise that will cause additional saltwater intrusion in areas that are already experiencing significant saltwater migration several miles inland; and

WHEREAS, restoration of freshwater sheet flow feeding into southern Biscayne Bay will help hold back saltwater intrusion and improve the County's resilience to potential climate impacts; and

WHEREAS, these projects are also both “shovel-ready” and “green,” making them consistent with early goals for federal economic stimulus funding,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Urges the U.S. Congress and the Florida Legislature to fully fund Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands projects, in particular the two projects critical to Biscayne Bay and Biscayne National Park: (i) both phases of the C-111 spreader canal and (ii) the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetland rehydration project.

Section 2. Urges the U.S. Congress and the Florida Legislature to prioritize funding for Everglades restoration projects in any economic stimulus package passed.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, the Governor of Florida, the President of the Florida Senate, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

Section 4. Directs the County’s federal and state lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in Sections 1 and 2 above, and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2009 Federal and State Legislative Packages.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Katy Sorenson, and the Co-Sponsors are Commissioner Sally A. Heyman and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Dennis C. Moss, Chairman
Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Vice-Chairman

Bruno A. Barreiro
Carlos A. Gimenez
Barbara J. Jordan
Dorrin D. Rolle
Katy Sorenson
Sen. Javier D. Souto

Audrey M. Edmonson
Sally A. Heyman
Joe A. Martinez
Natacha Seijas
Rebeca Sosa


The Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 17th day of February, 2009. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Jess M. McCarty

5